

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /050 W

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R 090430Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5680

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2925

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; USIA FOR IEA.

EO 11652: NA.

TAGS: PDIP, AS

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS ON AMBASSADOR GREEN.

REF: CANBERRA 2900.

1. ONLY SYDNEY TELEGRAPH AND FINANCIAL REVIEW TODAY MENTIONED POSSIBLE DEPARTURE AMBASSADOR GREEN.

2. TELEGRAPH REVIEWS AMBASSADOR'S DIPLOMATIC CAREER IN WHICH HE PICKED UP THE REPUTATION OF AMERICA'S FOREMOST EXPERT ON PACIFIC POLICIES AND A MAN WHOSE OPINIONS ARE NOT TO BE TRIFLED WITH. GOINT ON TO DISCUSS AMBASSADOR'S ROLE IN AUSTRALIAN/AMERICAN RELATIONS PAPER SAYS - QUOTE ... THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. GREEN WAS THE FIRST TIME AMERICA HAD SENT A REAL AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA FOR YEARS. HE WAS THEN AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE AND ONE OF THE ARCHITECTS OF NIXON'S NEW CHINA POLICY.

HIS CANBERRA APPOINTMENT REFLECTED A NEW AWARENESS OF AUSTRALIA BY THE WHITE HOUSE AND A GENUINE ATTEMPT TO FIND COMMON SOLID GROUND FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING.

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MR. GREEN USED ALL HIS SKILLS TO BRING THAT ABOUT.

THAT HE SUCCEEDED IS A TRIBUTE NOT ONLY TO HIS
TENACITY BUT TO HIS PATIENCE - UNQUOTE.

3. FINANCIAL REVIEW IN PIECE FROM WASHINGTON BY ROBERT
HAUPT (WITH P.M. WHITLAM'S PARTY) DEALS WITH WHITLAM/
FORD MEETING AND SAYS FUTURE UNCERTAIN AS BOTH LEADERS
ARE NOT COMPLETELY FREE TO ACT. PRESIDENT HAS HIS
PROBLEMS WITH CONGRESS AND P.M. WITH LABOR PARTY CAUCUS.

SPEAKING OF AMBASSADOR, HAUPT SAYS - QUOTE STRONG
REPORTS HAVE IT THAT THE PERSON WHO CAME IN TO CORRECT
THAT MISUNDERSTANDING - FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF
STATE MR. MARSHALL GREEN - IS ABOUT TO BE WITHDRAWN
FROM CANBERRA.

WHATEVER ELSE, MR. GREEN'S WITHDRAWAL WOULD REMOVE
AN ENTIRELY PLAUSIBLE ADVOCATE FOR THE TRUST OF THE
WHITLAM GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICIES - AND A MAN WHO
HAS HAD EXTENSIVE INFLUENCE WITHIN THE U.S. PROFESSIONAL
DIPLOMATIC BUREAUCRACY.

IT MUST BE SAID AT THIS STAGE THAT NO CONFIRMATION,
EVEN UNOFFICIAL, OF THE REPORTS OF MR. GREEN'S REAPPOINT-
MENT HAD REACHED FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS TRAVELLING
WITH MR. WHITLAM YESTERDAY.

BUT THE STRENGTH OF THE REPORTS OF A CHANGE SHOULD
BE SUFFICIENT TO CAUSE CONCERN WITHIN THE WHITLAM
GOVERNMENT.

HOWEVER UNREPENTANT A COLD WAR WARRIOR MR. GREEN
MAY HAVE BEEN, HE WAS - PARTLY BECAUSE OF HIS PAST RE-
PUTATION - AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF COMFORT TO THE LABOR
GOVERNMENT THROUGH HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN FAIRLY UN-
EQUIVOCAL SUPPORT OF LABOR'S FUNDAMENTAL FOREIGN POLICY
STANCE IN GOVERNMENT.

IF THE CUTTING OF THE GREEN LINK OCCURRED NOW, AND
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WAS JOINED - AS MANY OBSERVERS BELIEVE - BY THE DEMISE
OF GERALD FORD'S PRESIDENCY IN 1976, AUSTRALIA WOULD BE
FACING A CRISIS IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE WESTERN WORLD'S
GREATEST POWER OF EXTRAORDINARY MAGNITUDE. UNQUOTE.
GREEN

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